

WOMEN OF THE DAY.

An American Countess Visiting Her Father—Recollections of One Who Saw Napoleon.

HER TELEGRAPH CODE.

English Barmaids' Peculiarities—Unsophisticated Ballet Dancers—Independence of Fair Bostonians.

Washington letter to Baltimore American: The presence of the Countess Lanza in Washington, now with her three young children on a visit to her father, the eminent physician, Dr. William A. Hammond, revives the romantic story of her marriage some years ago. Count Lanza left Italy and came to this country to pursue his career as a mining engineer. After various vicissitudes the count found himself one fine morning completely stranded—a stranger in a strange land, without friends or even acquaintances to whom he could turn in the direst emergency of his life. Completely penniless, it chanced that at this juncture the opportunity offered of obtaining a place as waiter at Delmonico's. As a drowning man grasps at a straw, the unfortunate foreigner seized upon the place as an alternative against starvation. When he had been there some little time a splendid dinner party was given by Mrs. Howard Crosby, wife of the eminent divine of New York. That the young waiter detailed for their service was a man of no ordinary caliber, and was, moreover, a man of refinement, was at once apparent to Mrs. Crosby, who from that time took an active interest in the young man's welfare, and finally obtained for him a subordinate position in a mercantile house down town. Here the man's ability and true worth manifested itself, and steadily year by year he rose from one position of trust to another, until at last he became a partner. In all this time Count Lanza, who during the period of poverty and obscurity had dropped his title and figured as plain Mr., had eschewed society and kept himself proudly aloof. When at last the time arrived that he could go into society in his proper character, the count began to go about and accept invitations to the leading houses in New York. Here, as a wealthy bachelor and one of the leading partners in a rich and influential firm, it may be readily credited that the count, albeit he was still incognito, was the recipient of much flattering attention on the part of society generally and the fair sex in particular. But the count had met and admired Dr. Hammond's handsome daughter, and had eyes for no one else. The admiration was mutual, and before any unnecessary lapse of time after the two had come to an understanding Count Lanza approached Dr. Hammond and in due form requested the hand of his daughter in marriage. His request was at first raised by Dr. Hammond, who in some way had got wind of the fact that his would-be son-in-law had at one time frequented Delmonico's in the humble capacity of a waiter. This fact in spite of explanations, militated against him, until finally after a long interview, the count drew himself up proudly, saying: "In my country it would be considered a condescension for one of my family to seek out of your family in marriage." This appears to have had the desired effect, for very shortly after that the marriage took place. Count Lanza and his bride spent the honeymoon abroad, when, having established beyond all question his right to his title, the Count and Countess Lanza returned to New York, where they have since resided, and where three lovely children have been born to them. Countess Lanza is quite literary, and has written a number of books, the best known of which is "Mr. Jenkins' Daughter."

SHE SAW NAPOLEON.
Ade and hearty at the age of 89 years, Countess Lanza celebrated her eighty-third birthday at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. J. H. Dickmann, at Black Jack, Mo., a fortnight ago. She looks younger than she did a year ago. She bids fair to hand us down traditions of more than a century. A number of her children, grand-children, great-grand-children and near relations arrived in the forenoon, and in the afternoon several of the old residents called to extend congratulations. In the evening a large number of neighbors brought her a grand ovation. Mrs. Ober is, perhaps, the oldest lady in St. Louis county, where she has resided 60 years. She was born at Dillengen, near Alsace-Saverne, Alsace, Jan. 20, 1800, when Napoleon took up his residence in the Tuilleries as first consul of the French republic. She saw him as emperor, when, in 1812, he marched through Saverne to join the "grand army" which assembled in Poland for the Russian war. She takes no delight in this recollection. Her father, with his team, was pressed in the army of cart-driver to follow Napoleon to Russia. When he returned, after many months of dreadful sufferings and privations, he found himself a financially ruined man, and what little he had left was devoured in 1814 when the Russian army invaded France, the "gros" of which passed through Alsace-Lorraine. But 14 years of age, she had the care of her sick parents, and six Russian soldiers were quartered in her home. In 1820 she married Fred Dietrich, by whom she had four children; two are still living. She arrived in St. Louis in 1829. After a short widowhood, she married Peter Ober in 1839. From this union sprang three daughters who, with her other children, we hope, will celebrate her anniversary in good health a score of times and more.

A QUEEN'S MUSTACHE.
London Figaro: A most curious statement is being made about the Queen of Portugal. Not only has Maria Pia a clearly defined mustache on her upper lip, but she is positively proud of it. It is further stated, evidently by a confirmed courtier, that this hirsute adornment suits admirably the Queen of Portugal's style of beauty. Who shall say, then, that this royal example will not affect a revolution in this particular direction? Hitherto the answers on toilet matters in the ladies' journals have been largely devoted to directions to fair correspondents how they might get rid of the superfluous growth of hair on their upper lips and chins. But in future, possibly, toilet editors will be called on to recommend the best mustache developer for ladies whose "style of beauty" the masculine growth on the upper lip is supposed to suit.

HER TELEGRAPH CODE.
San Francisco Chronicle: She was going to Europe. He is a very rich man, but a millionaire will always make up a telegraphic code to save money. It would be nothing to him if she sent a hundred words in a telegram, but he will always get as much as he can for nothing anyway, and he will have a telegraph code. I don't

know, though. Perhaps he thought she might take as many words to say a thing by telegraph as ladies ordinarily do in conversation, and that would bankrupt a millionaire. Let us acquit him of economy. Let us say that by confining her to one word he would understand what she telegraphed; who reads if he left her to express it her own way he might never have found out what she meant. He left her to make out the code. She made one quite to the point on all important matters. She selected the words herself, wrote it all out, and handed it to him when she left. He locked it in his desk and it was all right. Last week he got a telegram from her. It consisted of one word—"Laugh." He laughed. It seemed to be something quite pleasant. His code was at his house. He went up there in the best of humor. He got out the code and he read this brief but emphatic legend: "Laugh—Send me \$500."

ENGLISH BARMAIDS.
We have no such thing in America, nor does the idea ever find favor with Americans in their own country, as the barmaid as she exists in England. The barmaid in England is generally a very fine woman. Some of them are superbly handsome, and they are in the habit of receiving attention from customers with as much sangfroid as if the little flirtation was purely a professional matter, which it really is. They are generally of good character, free even from scandal. Their position is clearly defined and understood, and they are amply able to take care of themselves. They are quick-witted, bright and for the most part, in the qualities required to attract customers, clever. Many of them marry well, most of them are remarkably temperate, and they never seem to develop a taste for the liquors it is their business to dispense. A professional gentleman, talking of his experience in Australia, said: "They aren't like American girls. I knew one; she was the daughter of the proprietor of the place—a most respectable man—and she was, outside of the bar, quite a belle. I asked her one evening to go to the theatre with me, and she went. Following American customs, I invited her after to have some oysters or ice cream, or something, but she flouted me by turning round and asking very brusquely: 'Do you think I can't get enough to eat at home?'"

BALLET DANCERS WHO ENJOY LIFE.
Six of Kralffy's premiere ballet dancers recently arrived in New York from Berlin and were quartered at Lambert's famous Italian restaurant, on Seventeenth street, near Irving place. They were of a gregarious disposition and preferred to bunk together in a two-bedded room than to be separated, to which, of course, Mue. Lambert did not object. They were all Germans, and the first thing they did, on retiring for the night, was to place their shoes outside the door to be polished by the porter. When the Neapolitan man-of-all-work saw the shoes scattered along the hallway he examined the skylight to see if there had been a shower during the night. The girls were surprised in the morning to find that their shoes had not been "shined up." They were still more surprised to learn that they were lucky to find their shoes at all, for, as the head waiter, who was also a German, told them, if they had been in an American hotel they would probably have had them stolen or thrown out of the window by some practical joker who came rolling home half full. The dozen shoes were thereafter taken downstairs every day and "shined up" in first class shape. They were a jolly lot. When Kralffy came to settle the bill at the end of three days, she exclaimed: "Mein Gott in himmel! was is das? Eighteen shins and seventy-six bottle of beer! Vy, I polish mein shoes mein self, und dot was too much beer for von woman every day." The bill was settled, however, and the German ballet dancers went on their way rejoicing across the continent to San Francisco.

BOSTON WOMEN.
The Boston woman is nothing if not independent. She deems herself very properly at least the equal of the masculine brute, who is taught by her that he is not by any means the indispensable creature commonly supposed. The female of the human species hereabouts, outnumbering so greatly as she does the local male supply, must needs learn to take care of herself. And so she does. It is thus one finds thousands of unprotected but self-reliant maidens of various ages approaching matrimonial hopelessness, pursuing a sort of bachelorette existence in the studio buildings, with art or literature as an occupation. Some of them paint things more or less bad, which their kind-hearted friends make a habit of buying. Others do hack work for the newspapers. As a rule they are ladies, and have some little income of their own, which enables them to make both ends meet. Their manner of living is simple and inexpensive. A screen in one corner conceals a little gas stove and some dishes. In a curtained alcove is a bed. Half a dozen chairs, an easel or two and some painting or writing materials complete the equipment of the virginal menage.

MISS CLEVELAND.
Miss Rose Elizabeth Cleveland, sister of the president, was registered at the San Juan hotel, Orlando, Fla., on Wednesday, having arrived on the afternoon south-bound train. She left on the fast mail Thursday for points further south. Naples or Leghorns is her destination. She has a five acre orange grove and a cozy six-room house there, the latter all arranged for her occupancy. She will spend the winter there and engage in literary work. She is anxious to finish a novel before spring.

Notice to Subscribers.
We have within the past few days received many remittances from subscribers who fail to give their postoffice addresses. Several have also neglected to sign their names. Many wish to have their addresses changed, but fail to give their former post-office. Subscribers will confer a great favor and save unnecessary delay by giving correctly the name of their present and former addresses.

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